

## **ABSTRACT**

The objective is to realize a numeric value search apparatus and numeric value search method capable of rapidly searching for a numeric value of a prescribed rank.

The present invention is characterized in that it comprises the following: a storage unit which stores multiple pieces of digitized numeric value data; a resolution specifying means which specifies a frequency distribution resolution; a frequency distribution creation unit which determines the frequency distribution of numeric value data in the storage unit using the resolution specified by this resolution specifying means; and a computation unit which determines the numeric value range or numeric value with the prescribed rank from the frequency distribution determined by this frequency distribution creation unit; wherein the resolution specifying means increases the resolution specified to the frequency distribution creation unit in steps, based on the computation results of the computation unit.